



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 393

LCO No. 1575

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

Introduced by:
(PS)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL
ORDINANCES REGARDING RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLERS IN
NEW HOMES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-315 of the general statutes, as amended by
2 section 66 of public act 01-173, is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

4 (a) (1) When any building is to be built having more than four
5 stories and is to be used for human occupancy, such building shall
6 have an automatic fire extinguishing system approved by the State Fire
7 Marshal on each floor.

8 (2) When any building is (A) to be built as an educational
9 occupancy, (B) eligible for a school building project grant pursuant to
10 chapter 173, and (C) put out to bid on or after July 1, 2004, such
11 building shall have an automatic fire extinguishing system approved
12 by the State Fire Marshal on each floor. "Educational occupancy" shall
13 have the same meaning as in the Fire Safety Code.

14 (b) Each hotel or motel having six or more guest rooms and

15 providing sleeping accommodations for more than sixteen persons for
16 which a building permit for new occupancy is issued on or after
17 January 1, 1987, shall have an automatic fire extinguishing system
18 installed on each floor in accordance with regulations adopted by the
19 Commissioner of Public Safety.

20 (c) Not later than October 1, 1992, each hotel or motel having more
21 than four stories shall have an automatic fire extinguishing system
22 approved by the State Fire Marshal on each floor.

23 (d) (1) Not later than January 1, 1995, each residential building
24 having more than four stories and occupied primarily by elderly
25 persons shall have an automatic fire extinguishing system approved by
26 the State Fire Marshal on each floor. Not later than January 1, 1994, the
27 owner or manager of or agency responsible for such residential
28 building shall submit plans for the installation of such system, signed
29 and sealed by a licensed professional engineer, to the local fire marshal
30 within whose jurisdiction such building is located or to the State Fire
31 Marshal, as the case may be. For the purposes of this subsection, the
32 phrase "occupied primarily by elderly persons" means that on October
33 1, 1993, or on the date of any inspection, if later, a minimum of eighty
34 per cent of the dwelling units available for human occupancy in a
35 residential building have at least one resident who has attained the age
36 of sixty-five years.

37 (2) Each residential building having more than twelve living units
38 and occupied primarily by elderly persons, as defined in subdivision
39 (1) of this subsection, or designed to be so occupied, for which a
40 building permit for new occupancy is issued or which is substantially
41 renovated on or after January 1, 1997, shall have an automatic fire
42 extinguishing system approved by the State Fire Marshal on each floor.

43 (e) No building inspector shall grant a building permit unless a fire
44 extinguishing system as required by subsection (a) or (b) of this section
45 is included in the final, approved building plans and no fire marshal or
46 building inspector shall permit occupancy of such a building unless

47 such fire extinguishing system is installed and operable. The State Fire
48 Marshal may require fire extinguishing systems approved by him to be
49 installed in other occupancies where they are required in the interest of
50 safety because of special occupancy hazards.

51 (f) Each city and town may adopt an ordinance, consistent with
52 guidelines established by the State Fire Marshal, requiring that any
53 new one or two family home for which a building permit is issued
54 after the adoption of such ordinance shall have an automatic fire
55 extinguishing system approved by the State Fire Marshal on each floor.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To increase public safety by allowing towns to require fire sprinkler systems in new one and two family homes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]